	Case 1:05-cv-11534-JLT	Document 1	Filed 07/	20/2005	Page 1 of 9	
RECEIPT # AMOUNT \$ SUMMONS ISS LOCAL RULE 4 WAIVER FORM MCF ISSUED_ BY DPTY, CLK	M DIST	D STATES DIST RICT OF MASSA				
ELI	ZABETH M. VAUGHN,))				
	Plaintiff,	ý				
	v.) (Civ. Action 1	No		
INC LTI JAN	VESTORS MARKETING SERV C., INVESTORS CAPITAL HOLD D., INVESTORS CAPITAL CON NICE CHARLES AND THEODO ARLES, Defendants.	LDINGS,)	05	ĺ ĺ	534	JLT
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INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiff, Elizabeth Vaughn ("Ms. Vaughn"), brings this action seeking damages arising out of violations of the Family and Medical Leave Act, 29 U.S.C. § 2601 et. seq., ("FMLA") during her employment by Defendants Investor Marketing Services, Inc. ("IMS"), Investors Capital Holdings, Ltd. ("ICH"), Investors Capital Corp. ("ICC"), Janice Charles ("Ms. Charles") and Theodore Charles ("Mr. Charles").

THE PARTIES

- Ms. Vaughn is an individual residing at 125 Farrwood Drive, Haverhill, MA
 01835.
- 3. IMS is a Massachusetts corporation registered to do business in Massachusetts.
 IMS is located at 168 Centre Street, Danvers, Massachusetts 01923. IMS is an affiliate of
 Investors Capital Corporation ("ICC"). IMS is in the business of providing fixed annuity, life

insurance and long term care products. IMS has over 7,000 licensed sales representatives that depend upon it for sales support and the latest available product information. IMS also performs the fulfillment functions for defendants ICC and ICH, including but not limited to licensing the registered representatives, preparing and mailing registrations kits and creating the graphics and other art work for ICC and ICH's marketing materials. It also prepares the assembly, shipping and postage of literature pertaining to ICH subsidiaries.

- 4. "ICH" is a Massachusetts corporation registered to do business in Massachusetts. ICH is located at 230 Broadway, Lynnfield Massachusetts 01940. ICH is a financial services holding company that operates primarily through its subsidiaries in two segments of the financial services industry: (i) securities, mutual funds, variable annuities and variable life insurance and (ii) financial planning services.
- 5. "ICC" is a Massachusetts corporation registered to do business in Massachusetts. ICC is located at 230 Broadway, Lynnfield Massachusetts 01940. ICC is a wholly owned subsidiary of ICH. ICC and ICH are located less than 75 miles away from IMS. ICC is the registered broker dealer in all 50 states for ICH. ICC makes available multiple investment products such as variable annuities and provides support, technology and back office services to its network of 800 independent registered representatives. ICC sales account for 95% of the revenue of ICH. If an ICC agent sells a fixed insurance product, IMS receives a percentage of the commission.
- 6. Ms. Charles is an individual residing at 65 E. Point Boulevard, Gloucester, Massachusetts.
- 7. Mr. Charles is an individual residing at 65 E. Point Boulevard, Gloucester, Massachusetts. Mr. Charles and Ms. Charles are husband and wife.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- This Court has jurisdiction over this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1331 because 8. Plaintiff's claims arise under a federal statute, the Family and Medical Leave Act 29 U.S.C. §2601 et seq. ("FMLA").
- Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(a)(2), because a 9. substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this District.

FACTS

Ms. Vaughn's Tenure at IMS

- Ms. Vaughn was born on October 20, 1949. She is currently 55 years old. 10.
- 11. Ms. Vaughn began her employment with IMS on or about July 5, 1995. As of approximately 1997, she worked as the Licensing Director. She reported directly to Jennifer Lanouette, a Vice President, who reported directly to Janice Charles.
- 12. As the Licensing Director, her duties and responsibilities included but were not limited to ensuring that IMS and ICC were properly licensed in all states and making sure the contracts were fully executed. Her job required data entry, filing, problem solving and working with outside vendors, among other duties.
- 13. Ms. Vaughn was an exempt, full-time employee, working at least 40 hours per week. She worked at least 1250 hours in the last 12 months prior to her requested medical leave. She did not take any unpaid leaves of absence during the last 12 months prior to her termination.
- 14. Over the years, Ms. Vaughn met or exceeded the expectations of her supervisors. She conducted herself professionally at all times and always completed her abundant workload.

When she began work in 1995 she was compensated at the rate of \$7.50 per hour. As of June 2005, she was paid \$20.40 per hour.

15. She never received a written warning and was never placed on a performance improvement plan.

Ms. Vaughn's Request for FMLA Leave

- 16. During the spring of this year, Ms. Vaughn informed her supervisor Jennifer Lanouette that she needed to have a partial hysterectomy. The surgery would require an inpatient procedure including an overnight hospital stay and six to eight weeks of recovery. During the recovery period, Ms. Vaughn will not be able to, among other things, lift items or drive. Ms. Vaughn requested a leave of absence for the surgery and the 6 to 8 week recovery period recommended by her doctor.
- 17. In April, Ms. Vaughn confirmed her need for the surgery and notified Ms.

 Lanouette that the surgery would take place on August 9, 2005. Ms. Lanouette told her not to worry about her leave of absence.
 - 18. On June 6, 2005, Ms. Vaughn was terminated from her employment.
- 19. The Defendants told Ms. Vaughn that her job would be "outsourced." Before her termination, no one suggested that there was not enough work for Ms. Vaughn to continue her position with the company.
- 20. Ms. Vaughn's position has been "outsourced" to two, pre-existing younger employees who work for ICC. On information and belief, these two younger women will continue to work as ICC employees while performing the licensing duties for IMS.
 - 21. Ms. Vaughn was terminated to avoid providing her the FMLA leave.

- 22. Ms. Lanouette has personally expressed her dismay over Ms. Vaughn's termination and offered to personally pay for Ms. Vaughn's COBRA expenses.
- 23. Ms. Vaughn has suffered severe emotional distress because of her unlawful termination. She has been depressed, anxious, nervous and has suffered from insomnia.

IMS Qualifies as an Employer under the FMLA Because IMS, ICC and ICH are Integrated Employers

- 24. IMS, ICC and ICH are integrated employers under the FMLA and 29 CFR §825.104(c)(2).
- 25. On information and belief, IMS has approximately 25 employees. ICH has at least 50 employees.
 - 26. ICC is a wholly owned subsidiary of ICH, a publicly traded company.
 - 27. IMS is an affiliate of ICC.

Common Ownership

28. IMS and ICC are both jointly owned by Mr. and Ms. Charles. Mr. Charles is also the principal owner of ICH.

Common Management

- 29. IMS, ICC, and ICH have common officers and directors. IMS' officers include Mr. Charles (President) and Ms. Charles (Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary). Mr. and Ms. Charles have been the sole directors of IMS since 1995.
- 30. ICH's President, CEO and Chairman of the Board is Mr. Charles and the Secretary is Ms. Charles.
 - 31. Mr. and Ms. Charles are the sole Directors of ICC. Mr. Murphy is its Treasurer.

Interrelation Among Operations

32. The interrelationship between IMS and ICH is best stated in the ICH 2004 Annual Report, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission:

Investors Marketing Services, Inc. is jointly owned by [ICH]'s principal stockholder, Theodore E. Charles and his spouse, Janice M. Charles. This entity performs a fulfillment function for subsidiaries of [ICH] by preparing, collating and mailing registration kits to registered representatives, and creates graphics and other art work for various marketing materials produced for these subsidiaries. It also prepares the assembly, shipping and postage of literature pertaining to the subsidiaries.

(Id. at 33).

- 33. In addition to the overlap in duties above, the bookkeeper of IMS processes commissions for ICC. The bookkeeper, on information and belief, also provides Mr. Charles with a copy of IMS's financials.
 - 34. Ms. Vaughn regularly did work for both ICC and IMS.
- 35. While working at IMS Ms. Vaughn had a signature stamp for Mr. Charles which she regularly used to affix Mr. Charles name to contracts for various insurance companies on behalf of IMS and ICC.
 - 36. The Vice President of IMS, Jennifer Lanouette, regularly attends meetings at ICC.
- 37. On information and belief, the Vice President of IMS and the head of the graphics design department at IMS received shares when ICH went public.

Centralized Labor Relations

38. On information and belief, Mr. Charles controls all the activities and decisions of IMS, ICC and ICH. Upon information and belief, Mr. Charles made the decision to terminate Ms. Vaughn. On information and belief, he called Ms. Charles throughout the day and told her that if she did not fire Ms. Vaughn, he would do it himself.

- 39. Mr. Charles regularly participates in and speaks at the monthly meetings of IMS employees.
- 40. IMS employees are regularly summoned to perform services at ICC's offices.

 IMS marketers hold meetings and attend meetings at ICC. When IMS employees leave the

 Danvers office to work in Lynnfield, they are not required to clock out.

Shared Benefit Plans

- 41. IMS and ICC share an employee benefit plan. Since 2003, the employees of IMS have received health insurance through a plan with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts that is in the name of ICC.
- 42. IMS has a 401K Profit Sharing Plan (the "Plan") in which Ms. Vaughn was a participant. ICC employees also participate in this Plan. Upon information and belief, ICC does not have a separate 401K plan for its employees. Mr. and Ms. Charles are both trustees of the Plan. Moreover, while the Plan is in IMS' name, the Summary Annual Report refers inquiries to IMS at the address and telephone number of ICC.
 - 43. Mr. Charles is further listed as an agent for service of legal process for the Plan.

COUNTS

COUNT I – FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (Against All Defendants)

- 44. Ms. Vaughn repeats and incorporates by reference herein the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 43 above.
- 45. IMS is an integrated employer with ICC and ICH under the FMLA. As such, they are bound by the FMLA.
 - 46. Ms. Vaughn was an employee eligible for FMLA leave.
 - 47. Ms. Vaughn had worked at least 1250 hours in the last twelve months.

- Ms. Vaughn requested medical leave for treatment of her own serious health 48. condition. The partial hysterectomy would require an overnight stay at the hospital and a six to eight week period of incapacity for recovery.
- Ms. Vaughn had not used any of her 12 weeks of medical leave in the previous 49. calendar year or any other 12 month period.
 - 50. Defendants failed and/or refused to grant Ms. Vaughn her FMLA leave.
- Defendants violated 29 U.S.C. §2601 et seq. by failing and/or refusing to grant 51. Ms. Vaughn her medical leave and by terminating her employment. Thus, Ms. Vaughn is entitled to liquidated damages, back and front pay, medical expenses, double damages, equitable relief, costs and attorney's fees.

COUNT II – RETALIATION UNDER THE FMLA (Against All Defendants)

- Ms. Vaughn repeats and incorporates by reference herein the allegations set forth 52. in Paragraphs 1 through 51 above.
- 53. On or about Spring 2005, Ms. Vaughn notified Defendants that she needed medical leave in order to have a partial hysterectomy.
- 54. On or about April 2005, Ms. Vaughn told Defendants that her surgery had been scheduled for August 2005.
- 55. Defendants terminated Ms. Vaughn's employment in June 2005. Defendants terminated her employment because she asserted her right to leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act. This is an act of retaliation.
- 56. As a result of Defendants' violation, Ms. Vaughn has incurred damages including but not limited to loss of liquidated damages, compensation, medical expenses, double damages, attorneys' fees and costs, and emotional distress.

WHEREFORE, Ms. Vaughn respectfully requests that this Honorable Court enter judgment against the Defendants on Counts One and Two above, for the following:

- Compensatory damages; a.
- b. Liquidated damages;
- Double damages; c.
- Punitive damages; d.
- e. Equitable relief;
- f. Costs and interest;
- Reasonable attorneys' fees; and g.
- Any other relief that this Court deems just. h.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

The Plaintiff hereby claims a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH VAUGHN

By her attorneys,

Julie Davison (BBO No. 562289)

Tricia A. Rice (BBO No. 633556)

TODD & WELD LLP

28 State Street

Boston, MA 02109

(617) 720-2626

Dated: July 20, 2005

Document 1-2 CIVIL COVER 9HET 1 4 5 3 4 .1

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

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I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DE	ENDANTS	Investors Market	ting Services, Inc.		
Elizabeth M. Va	uiohn		Investors Capital Holdings, Ltd., Investors				
LIIZabeth h. va	.ugiiii		Capital Corp., Janice Charles and Theodore				
(b) County of Residence of	of First Listed Plaintiff Essex	Cha	rles ty of Residence	of First Listed Defendant	Essex		
, ,	(CEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)				
•			NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE				
		1	LAND	INVOLVED.			
(a) 1444 - 3 (7) 14	Address and Tolombora Number (617) 720-26	526	marie (If V nouse)	781-334-4284			
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Number) (017)720-20 Tricia Rice; Todd & Weld LLF	7100	Automotion (in tenowity)				
28 State Street,				2, Lynnfield, M			
II. BASIS OF JURISD			rsity Cases Only)	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)		
☐ 1 U.S. Government	X 3 Federal Question	C'r'		TF DEF	PTF DEF		
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of The	State K	I Incorporated or Proof Business In Thi			
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U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity	Citizen of An	ther State	2 Incorporated and I of Business In			
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IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only)	T OTOTAL CO					
CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITU	E/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES		
110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY			☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 ☐ 423 Withdrawal	400 State Reapportionment		
☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 362 Personal Injury - ☐ 315 Airplane Product ☐ Med. Malpractice		Food & Drug Related Seizure	28 USC 157	☐ 410 Antitrust ☐ 430 Banks and Banking		
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability 🗖 365 Personal Injury -	of Pro	perty 21 USC 881		☐ 450 Commerce		
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	320 Assault, Libel & Product Liability Slander 368 Asbestos Persona	☐ 630 Liqu		PROPERTY RIGHTS B20 Copyrights	☐ 460 Deportation ☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and		
151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers' Injury Product	650 Airli		830 Patent	Corrupt Organizations		
152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability Liability	☐ 660 Occu		☐ 840 Trademark	480 Consumer Credit		
Student Loans (Excl. Veterans)	☐ 340 Marine PERSONAL PROPER ☐ 345 Marine Product ☐ 370 Other Fraud	Safety 690 Othe	/Health		☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV ☐ 810 Selective Service		
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability 371 Truth in Lending	i	ABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/		
of Veteran's Benefits	350 Motor Vehicle 380 Other Personal	710 Fair	abor Standards	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff)	Exchange		
☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits ☐ 190 Other Contract	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Property Damage Product Liability ☐ 385 Property Damage		/Mgmt. Relations	☐ 862 Black Lung (923) ☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	□ 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410		
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability	☐ 360 Other Personal Product Liability	730 Labo	/Mgmt.Reporting	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI	☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions		
☐ 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY	Injury CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER PETITION		closure Act ray Labor Act	☐ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS	891 Agricultural Acts B92 Economic Stabilization Act		
☐ 210 Land Condemnation	☐ 441 Voting ☐ 510 Motions to Vacat		Labor Litigation	☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	893 Environmental Matters		
220 Foreclosure	XX 442 Employment Sentence	☐ 791 Emp		or Defendant)	☐ 894 Energy Allocation Act		
☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment ☐ 240 Torts to Land	Accommodations Habeas Corpus: 530 General	Secu	ity Act	☐ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	895 Freedom of Information		
245 Tort Product Liability	☐ 444 Welfare ☐ 535 Death Penalty			20 030 7007	900Appeal of Fee Determination		
290 All Other Real Property	☐ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - ☐ 540 Mandamus & Oth Employment ☐ 550 Civil Rights	her			Under Equal Access		
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V. ORIGIN(Place	an "X" in One Box Only)	_	_ T-nn	aformed from	Appeal to District		
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Proceeding S	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you a	Reopened	cite iurisdiction		n Judgment		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you a 29 U.S.C. Section 2601						
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	Brief description of cause: Violation of Family and	d Medical	Leave A	et			
VII. REQUESTED IN	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION		D\$290,000		if demanded in complaint:		
COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P. 23		rnev fees		: XXIYes □ No		
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) MCAD Action						
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Case 1:05-cv-11534-JLT

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Elizabeth M. Vaughn v. Investors Marketing Services, 1. Title of case (name of first party on each side only)_ Inco, Investors Capital Holdings, Ltd., Investors Capital Corp., Janice Charles and Theodore Charles 2. Category in which the case belongs based upon the numbered nature of suit code listed on the civil cover sheet. (See local rule 40.1(a)(1)). 160, 410, 470, 535, R.23, REGARDLESS OF NATURE OF SUIT. 195, 196, 368, 400, 440, 441-446, 540, 550, 555, 625, 710, 720, 730, *Also complete AO 120 or AO 121 740, 790, 791, 820*, 830*, 840*, 850, 890, 892-894, 895, 950. for patent, trademark or copyright cases 110, 120, 130, 140, 151, 190, 210, 230, 240, 245, 290, 310, III. 315, 320, 330, 340, 345, 350, 355, 360, 362, 365, 370, 371, 380, 385, 450, 891. 220, 422, 423, 430, 460, 480, 490, 510, 530, 610, 620, 630, 640, 650, 660, IV. 690, 810, 861-865, 870, 871, 875, 900. ٧. 150, 152, 153. 3. Title and number, if any, of related cases. (See local rule 40.1(g)). If more than one prior related case has been filed in this district please indicate the title and number of the first filed case in this court. Charge filed at MCAD with same parties. 4. Has a prior action between the same parties and based on the same claim ever been filed in this court? XX 5. Does the complaint in this case question the constitutionality of an act of congress affecting the public interest? (See 28 USC §2403) YES If so, is the U.S.A. or an officer, agent or employee of the U.S. a party? 6. Is this case required to be heard and determined by a district court of three judges pursuant to title 28 USC §2284? YES 7. Do all of the parties in this action, excluding governmental agencies of the united states and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ("governmental agencies"), residing in Massachusetts reside in the same division? - (See Local Rule 40.1(d)). YES A. If yes, in which division do all of the non-governmental parties reside? **Eastern Division Central Division** Western Division В. If no, in which division do the majority of the plaintiffs or the only parties, excluding governmental agencies, residing in Massachusetts reside? **Eastern Division** Central Division Western Division 8. If filing a Notice of Removal - are there any motions pending in the state court requiring the attention of this Court? (If yes, submit a separate sheet identifying the motions) (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT) Juliet Davison, Tricia Rice ATTORNEY'S NAME ___ ADDRESS Todd & Weld LLP. 28 State Street, Boston, MA 02109 TELEPHONE NO. 617-720-2626

(CategoryForm.wpd - 5/2/05)